

From the U.S. Geological Survey — standard methods for sampling ground and surface waters

WHY

As part of its mission to provide the information needed for wise management of the Nation's water resources, the USGS promotes data-collection methods that are scientifically valid and quality assured. Inherent in this mission is the need for accurate, nationally comparable data. These standards were published to document the methods currently used by the USGS to produce the data entered into the National Water Inventory System database.



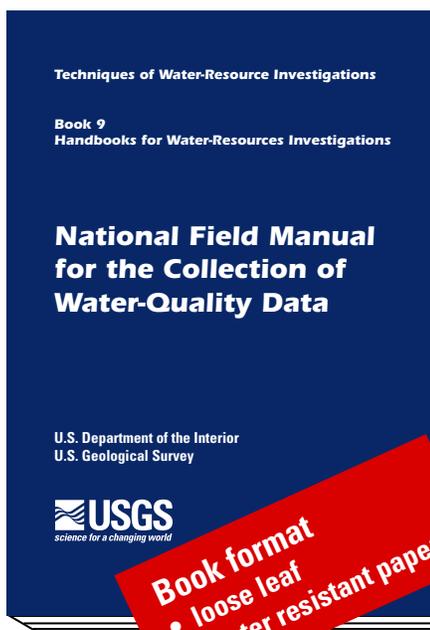
PURPOSE

(1) Establish and communicate scientifically sound data-collection methods. (2) Encourage consistent use of field methods in order to produce nationally comparable data. (3) Provide sampling methods that, when properly applied, result in accurate data that are reproducible within defined limits of variability.



BENEFITS

A national field manual benefits Federal, State, and local government agencies, educational institutions, and the professional private sector by documenting sampling methodology. Consistency in use of field methods reduces costly duplication of effort and promotes data comparability and quality.



Book format
• loose leaf
• water resistant paper

National Field Manual for the Collection of Water-Quality Data

CONTENTS

Chapter

A1. Preparations for Water Sampling
A2. Selection of Equipment for Water Sampling
A3. Cleaning of Equipment for Water Sampling
A4. Collection of Water Samples
A5. Processing of Water Samples
A6. Field Measurements

- General Information and Guidelines
- Temperature
- Dissolved Oxygen
- Specific Electrical Conductance
- pH
- Reduction-Oxidation Potential-Electrode Method
- Alkalinity and Acid Neutralizing Capacity
- Turbidity

A7. Biological Indicators

- Fecal Indicator Bacteria
- Five-Day Biochemical Oxygen Demand

A8. Bottom-Material Samples
A9. Safety in Field Activities

Web Site
• html
• pdf

For additional information call 1-888-ASK USGS or write to:
NFM-QW
U.S. Geological Survey
412 National Center
Reston, VA 20192



This report can be accessed on the World Wide Web:
<http://water.usgs.gov/owq/FieldManual>

or purchased from:
U.S. Geological Survey
Branch of Information Services
Box 25286, Federal Center
Denver, CO 80225